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21 MAR 1970

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence
Department of Defense-
National Agency Check Center
ATTN: Chief, Personnel Security Branch

FROM: Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT: OVON BOLSCHWING, Otto Albrecht Alfred
DOB: 15 October 1909
POB: Schonbruch, Germany
CIT: United States

1. Reference is made to your requests dated 2 and 28 July 1970 concerning Subject (CIA Batch Number 0173, Sequence Number 0099).

2. The following information was furnished by Subject himself; some of the biographical data has been confirmed by other sources. (Comment: It should be noted that Subject's information did not reveal the full extent of his Nazi Party affiliations.)

- a. Subject stated that in March 1932 he encountered difficulty in obtaining the German Government's consent for the building of a cement factory in East Prussia. Upon advice that Subject come to an arrangement with the "coming" Nazi Party, he agreed to apply for Party membership, considering his application a mere formality. In 1934 when Subject was in Palestine, he learned of his acceptance by the Party but did not participate in any Party activities, and was subsequently rebuked by the Auslandsorganization (coordinated branches of the Nazi Party formed outside of Germany and included Germans permanently or temporarily resident abroad) for his non-participation.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

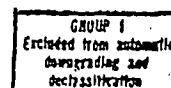
EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

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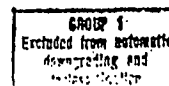
Declassified and Approved for Release
by the Central Intelligence Agency
Date: 2001, 2005

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On Subject's return to Germany in 1935, he was refused representation of a Middle East firm because he had failed to comply with Party directives. Through family contacts, Subject procured his Party membership book by paying the fees back to 1932. Subject left Germany for Switzerland and from there wrote letters to the deputy Party chief demanding an investigation. On his return to Germany in 1937, Subject was informed that he had been cleared (Subject claimed that this "clearance" came through a friend for whom he had done some favors in the Middle East). Subject was arrested in the winter of 1937/38 and again later in 1938 and was accused of pro-Jewish sympathies. In both instances, Subject was freed due to friends' intervention and payoffs by Subject. In 1939 Subject was told that he should accept the position of chief of intelligence ad interim in Romania if he wanted to protect himself. In April 1940, Subject became "Untersturmfuehrer" (Company Commander) in the Schutz Staffel (SS), and two promotions were given him between then and early 1941. From 1939-February 1941 he was in Romania as chief of Party Security and Intelligence Service (SD) under Foreign Office cover. Subject got into serious trouble because of his disagreement with the Party on its policy toward the Romanian Iron Guard and several months later he was sent on an intelligence mission to Greece where he disputed the Party's automatic arrest policy. Subject was then relieved of his command and sent to Berlin. Through the influence of an SS General, he was assigned to intelligence work in Holland in August 1941 where he claims to have tried to establish a line with Portugal to make direct contact with Western intelligence. When the afore-mentioned SS General fell into disgrace, Subject was recalled to Berlin and was put under watch by the Gestapo. In September 1942, Subject was arrested by the Gestapo and remained under

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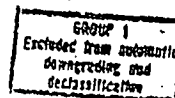
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arrest until April 1943. He claimed that, during this time, it was discovered that he had never actually been an SS member and that his Party membership was "more than dubious." Subject was then demoted and discharged from the SS. (Subject claimed that this was a face-saving move by the SS.) Subject stated that he was never in the pay of the SS or the Party and that both his Party and SS memberships were fraudulent, procured by bribery as self-protection both politically and materially. Subject claimed that he attempted to thwart Nazi aims from within. All Subject's identification and personal documents were confiscated upon his arrest and were never returned. Subject later fled to Tyrol, Austria, where he worked in a resistance group. Subject reported for registration with the city magistrate of Salzburg, Austria, as an SS Hauptsturmfuehrer, but, according to a decision of 9 February 1950, was exempted from registration because of his Austrian resistance activities, and his full civil rights were re-instated.

3. In a report dated 28 September 1953 from a source whose reliability can no longer be established, it was noted that subsequent to World War I Subject proceeded to the Near East where he engaged in business along with one ^{with} BORMANN. The business was believed to have been concerned with construction materials and was located in Haifa, Palestine. It was also reported that in 1936, Subject acted as an SD agent. In 1937 Subject was expelled from Palestine by the British authorities, possibly on the basis of his intelligence activities for the German Government. Subject then proceeded to Berlin, Germany, and collaborated with the SD and the Abwehr offices, and later worked for the Foreign Affairs Department (AMT VI) of the German Security and Intelligence (RSHA) in Romania, Greece and Holland. After Subject's release in 1943, he went to Vienna, Austria, where he engaged in the direction of a firm known as PHARMACHEMIE, a medical supply

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establishment which was reportedly utilized by the Abwehr office in Vienna as a cover for its activities. At that time, Subject reportedly functioned as an agent of Section I-M of the Abwehr office, Vienna, and for the Naval Intelligence Section of the same Headquarters. The SS Officers' list noted Subject as having been appointed an SS Hauptsturmfuehrer on 30 June 1941. After the cessation of hostilities, Subject was denounced by a source believed to be reliable, as a member of the notorious SD Sonderkommando "EICHMANN."

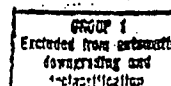
4. From the end of 1945-1946 Subject worked for the United States Military Government in the area of southern Bavaria. From 1947-1954 Subject was employed in intelligence activities sponsored by this Agency, and at that time, this Agency was unaware of the extent of Subject's Nazi background.

5. Following the Israeli arrest of Adolf EICHMANN, this Office undertook a detailed examination of captured documents bearing on EICHMANN's activities, and, as a result, discovered that Subject had concealed most aspects of his Nazi Party membership and his RSHA activities. In the years prior to, and early in the War, Subject was a principal agent of the RSHA and was definitely working under EICHMANN's direction. It appears that by 1938 EICHMANN directed at least one or two specific phases of Subject's work. The records indicate that Subject's activity dealt with the manipulation of Jewish properties away from their owners in connection with remigration proceedings. As yet, nothing connects Subject with EICHMANN's more serious crimes and it is still unclear as to how far into the War years Subject's collaboration with EICHMANN extended. The most significant single fact revealed was that, at least in the years prior to the War, Subject was a principal agent of Department II, Section II2 of the RSHA.

6. Subject has been identified in two books on EICHMANN. Subject was mentioned in Toviah FRIEDMAN's book, The Hunter, as a principal agent of the "Jewish Department" and in Quentin REYNOLD's Minister of Death he was named as the assistant to the head of German intelligence in Palestine in 1937. The latter book ascribes to Subject

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the role of getting "acquainted with members of the Haganah (at that time, a Jewish underground organization) in hopes of finding some who would work with the Gestapo."

CSCI-316/02569-70

RID/CE: JKS/JB/jaw

BASED ON: L
EAVA-3801
9 July 1953

EASA-2171
28 September 1953

Memorandum dated 10 April 1961

FILE IN: L

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification